

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/821,685

Examiner

Johnna R. Loftis

Applicant(s)

CARMODY, CHARLES SCOTT

Art Unit

3623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 5/16/07, after final.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4,5,7,11-15 and 17-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____

Beth Van Doren
Beth Van Doren
AU 3623
Primary Examiner

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 4, 5, 7, 11-15 and 17-23 allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited prior art, taken alone or in combination fails to teach the claimed invention set forth in claims 4, 5, 7, 11-15 and 17-23. Specifically, the invention in claims 4, 5 and 11-15 is directed to a method and system for receiving private onsite wastewater treatment system service requests, assigning a third party private onsite wastewater treatment system service provider, notifying the third party private onsite wastewater treatment system service provider, receiving a service report from the third party private onsite wastewater treatment system service provider, providing access to a permit database including a record of each of the private onsite wastewater treatment systems wherein the system searches the permit database to determine if a system for which a request is received is included in the permit database and notifying appropriate governmental agency if the private onsite wastewater treatment system is not included. The invention in claims 7, 17-19, 22 and 23 is directed to a method and system for receiving private onsite wastewater treatment system service requests, assigning a third party private onsite wastewater treatment system service provider, notifying the third party private onsite wastewater treatment system service provider, receiving a service report from the third party private onsite wastewater treatment system service provider, providing access to a service history database, establishing service event thresholds for each of the private onsite wastewater treatment systems, monitoring the service history database to determine the service event threshold and notifying appropriate governmental agency if the service event threshold is exceeded. Claims 20 and 21 combine the features of the above claims and are allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

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Regarding claims 4, 5, 11-15, 20 and 21, the closest prior art, the combination of Berman, US 5,995,939 and Environmental Protection Agency's Envirofacts Warehouse, teach assigning service requests to appropriate service providers and a database to check for compliance with permits. The combination fails to teach searching the permit database to determine if a permit has been issued for the system for which there is a service request and notifying the appropriate governmental agency if the permit for the private onsite wastewater system is not included in the database.

Regarding claims 7, 17-19-23, the closest prior art, the combination of Berman, US 5,995,939 and Snodgrass, "Taking infrastructure management systems into the next century", teach assigning service requests to appropriate service providers and storing preventative maintenance schedules. The combination fails to teach establishing service event thresholds and monitoring the service event thresholds for each of the private onsite wastewater treatment systems included in the service history database wherein if the service event threshold for any of the private onsite wastewater treatment systems is exceeded, the appropriate governmental agency is notified.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Amendment

3. In response to the final office action, mailed 11/16/06, Applicant cancelled claims 1, 2, 8, 9 and 16. Accordingly, Examiner has indicated remaining claims, 4, 5, 7, 11-15 and 17-23, as allowable.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Dunn, David. "Virtual Government Puts Locals Online."

"Anticipating and Managing Change in Government Agencies."

JP02001229277A, Sakamoto, Mitsumasa, Network Service Support System

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Johnna R. Loftis whose telephone number is 571-272-6736. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on 571-272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JL

5/31/07

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